

layering a second conductive material over said first conductive material.

44. (Amended) The method in claim 43, wherein said step of releasing nitrogen from said plasma with electromagnetic energy comprises directing ultraviolet light toward said gas.

76. (Amended) A method of passivating a multilayer conductive structure, comprising:

layering a first conductive material;  
introducing N<sub>2</sub> plasma to said first conductive material;  
releasing nitrogen from said plasma with electromagnetic energy;

and

layering a second conductive material over said first conductive material.

77. (Amended) A method of passivating a multilayer conductive structure, comprising:

layering a first conductive material;  
introducing NH<sub>3</sub> plasma to said first conductive material;  
releasing nitrogen from said plasma with electromagnetic energy;

and

layering a second conductive material over said first conductive material.